movable between support frames from the opposite sides of the board mounting position and replaceable by moving one of the component supply tables, which is arranged on one of the sides from the one side of the board mounting position, and thereafter fixedly installing a new component supply table for accommodating a plurality of components in a specified position of the one side so as to replace the one component supply table with the new component supply table; and

a first mounting head section for successively picking up the plurality of components at one of the component supply tables, thereafter moving to a board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in first and second directions which are perpendicular to each other,

wherein the first direction is perpendicular to a board transfer direction in which the board is transferred, and the second direction is located along the board transfer direction,

a second mounting head section for successively picking up the plurality of components at the other of the component supply tables, thereafter moving to the board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in third and fourth directions which are perpendicular to each other,

C1

wherein the third direction is parallel to the first direction, and the fourth direction is parallel to the second direction but is not necessarily the same direction as the second direction,

wherein each of the first and second mounting head sections is independently movable between the component supply table and the board, and one of the first and second mounting head sections is movable between the other of the component supply tables and the board while the other of the first and second mounting head sections is stopped for the replacement of one of the component supply tables with the new component supply table.

16. The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each of the component supply tables is selected from one of:

a component supply table provided with component supply means comprises of parts cassettes provided with reels;

a component supply table mounted with a stick-shaped component supply means at which components stored in a pipe member are successively fed to a take-out position;

a component supply table on which bulk components are placed; and

a tray-shaped component supply table.

17. The component mounting apparatus according to claim 16, wherein component take-out positions of the component supply tables are positioned in a straight line extending along a board transfer path where the board is transferred.

18. (Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:

a base structure;

a pair of inverted U-shaped support frames positioned on said base structure in a parallel relationship and on opposite sides of a board mounting position, wherein a board transfer path extends through openings in said U-shaped support frames;

a pair of component supply tables removably secured between said support frames on opposite sides of the board transfer path, each of said component supply tables accommodating a plurality of components,

wherein each of said component supply tables includes a plurality of casters for allowing the component supply tables to be moved in a perpendicular direction toward and away from the board transfer path;

a first mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at one of the component supply tables, thereafter moving to a board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in first and second perpendicular directions, wherein the first direction is perpendicular to the board transfer direction,

a second mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at the other of the component supply tables, thereafter moving to the board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in third and fourth directions which are perpendicular to each other, wherein the third direction is parallel to the first direction,

wherein each of the first and second mounting head sections is independently movable between the component supply tables and the board,

wherein the second mounting head section is movable between the other component supply table and the board while the first mounting head section is stopped for the purpose of replacing the one component supply table with the new component supply table.

C2

Kindly add the following new claims:

19.(NEW) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each of the component supply tables is a component supply table provided with component supply means comprised of parts cassettes provided with reels, and one of the component supply tables has no required components and includes all of the parts cassettes arranged on the one side while the new component supply table has the required components.

C3

20.(NEW) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein, when the components are mounted on a plurality of types of boards, one of the component supply tables, having components required for one of the types of boards, is used for the one type of board while the other of the component supply table, having components required for the other of the types of boards, is used for another type of board.